

BARTHOLOMEW FAIR.

The Great London Saturnalia—How it Flourished for Seven Centuries and a Half—How it was Suppressed in 1855.

At about this season of the year the evenings in England become so chilly that this saying has become proverbial:—"Saint Bartholomew brings the cold war." But for many centuries the good people of London had sufficient cause to note the annual recurrence of St. Bartholomew's day without paying any attention to the state of the weather, or its changes. On that day, the 24th of August, was celebrated in the very heart of the city a grand saturnalia, passing under the name of Bartholomew Fair, which at last became such a public nuisance that it was found necessary to suppress it.

as proprietors of booths, or actors therein. Henry Fielding, the celebrated novelist, commenced his career as a part-proprietor in one of these establishments, continuing in the business for nine years. One of the most famous performers at the fair, in the time of Charles II. was Paux, the conjurer, whose exploits in sleight of hand approached, if they did not equal, those of our latter-day magicians. He left behind him a fortune of \$50,000, all of which he acquired by his jugglery and legerdemain.

from suspicion or arrest; his conscience, "stealing away his brains," led him to talk, talk, talk; and now it appears, by the official correspondence of the State Department, that this confession of identity to Surgeon McMillan was the first positive trace obtained of him. He was closely watched, but finally mysteriously disappeared, and all trace of him was again lost, until conscience impelled him, through his insane desire to talk of himself, to seek a confidant in some one of the Papal Zouaves, in which troop he was enlisted. Mr. Detective Conscience found a cooperator in this man, and, aided by him, the agents of the Government again resumed the pursuit. Arrested, Surratt escaped and fled to Alexandria, Egypt, but was again arrested and sent to this country. On the voyage he repeatedly denied that he was Surratt; but on being asked, on his arrival at Washington, in an authoritative tone by the United States Marshal, "Is your name John H. Surratt?" he quickly and nervously answered affirmatively. The pursuit of Surratt was continued for nearly two years. If any reward for his detection is ever paid it will doubtless go to McMillan and St. Marie; but it should, in all justice and honesty, be transferred to Treasurer Spinner's "Conscience Fund," for undoubtedly Surratt was hunted down by his own guilty conscience, and the chief witnesses against him have been, as one might say, subpoenaed by conscience.

counted for by the following, received a short time afterwards:—"Enclosed are One Thousand Dollars (1000). Please place this sum to credit of United States Treasury. It is the balance of my indebtedness to United States Internal Revenue Dept. I remitted \$1000 some weeks since."

INSURANCE COMPANIES. DELAWARE MUTUAL SAFETY INSURANCE COMPANY, INCORPORATED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1851. OFFICE, 8 E. CORNER OF THIRD AND WALNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA.

INSURANCE COMPANIES. BRANCH OFFICE HOME INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT. CAPITAL \$1,000,000.00. NET ASSETS \$1,375,516.74.

At about this season of the year the evenings in England become so chilly that this saying has become proverbial:—"Saint Bartholomew brings the cold war."

Notwithstanding that the Fair was then in its decline, we are told that in the year 1829 the Londoners attended the new shrine, the benevolent saint in whose honor it was established coming to the assistance of his devotees in so marked and substantial a manner, that miracles were wrought on the spot, and many of the afflicted were made whole.

Enclosed in this was a fragment—a little more than half—of a dilapidated five-cent note. Here is a quiet thrust at Congress:—"Apr. 8th, 1866.—Sir.—The Enclosed Displaced 10 Cents Note is from a Conscience Stricken Soldier who has been in the army for 20 years."

INSURANCE COMPANIES. THE PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, INCORPORATED IN PENNSYLVANIA, 1812. OFFICE, 212 N. 2ND ST., PHILADELPHIA.

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